

VENTNOR, ISLE OF WIGHT, URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.
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ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1950
OF
THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
including the Report of
THE SANITARY INSPECTOR.

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To the Chairman and Councillors.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for 1950, my first full year since appointment as your Medical Officer of Health.

With the exception of infectious diseases, the statistics compare favourably with previous years. 1950 was unfortunate in that measles and poliomyelitis occurred on an unprecedented scale in the Island as a whole during the year, the epidemics affecting the town. Of the total of 177 cases of infectious diseases, 159 were due to measles, chiefly affecting children under school-age.

Only five cases of poliomyelitis were notified from the district, although several more cases were later reported from the mainland and which had undoubtedly been contracted in the Ventnor district. Of these latter, I regret to report that one, a boy of 14, died.

The vital statistics, enumerated on another page, are once again convincing evidence of the reputation Ventnor has won as a health resort. Of the 107 deaths, 55 were due to heart diseases and 17 to various forms of cancer. There were two deaths from tuberculosis. The comparative death rate was 10.9, which compares with 11.1 the previous year, and both of which are well below the national figure for England and Wales (11.6). A remarkable proportion of the total deaths occurred in persons aged 80 and over; Ventnor must indeed be unique for the longevity of its population, either in this country or anywhere in the world.

Once again I must report that the shortage of housing is a cause of the deepest anxiety to the Health Department. Many existing houses are scheduled for demolition, and the erection of new houses is far from sufficient to rehouse the many deserving families in the district.

The work of your Chief Sanitary Inspector can be seen from the statistics in this report. I should like to draw attention to the considerable time spent by him in his meat-inspection duties at the Bacon Factory at Wroxall. Since this factory is within the district, the arduous and highly responsible duty of inspecting every pig after slaughter, devolves on this Department, even though the majority of the meat is sent to towns elsewhere in the Island and on the mainland.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

DONALD WARREN BROWNE,

Medical Officer of Health.

Health Department,
Salisbury Gardens,
Ventnor, I.W.

December, 1951.

STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health.

Donald Warren Browne.

M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., D.T.M. & H.

Sanitary Inspector,
Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.

W.G. Saunders.

Cert. R.S.I., M.R.S.I.

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GENERAL.

Statistics.

Total hours of Sunshine during 1950	...	...	1729.8
Area in acres	...	...	3522
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1950)	...	...	2325
Rateable value	...	...	£63,290
Sum represented by 1d. rate	...	...	£248
Population - Registrar General's Estimate	...	...	6910
Live births - Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population	...	...	11.7
Live births - Comparative factor (births)	...	...	1.11
Comparative Birth Rate	...	...	13.0
Live births - Rate per 1,000 of England and Wales	...	...	15.8
Stillbirths - Rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths	...	...	Nil
Deaths - Crude death rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population	...	...	15.5
Comparative factor (deaths)	...	...	0.70
Comparative death rate	...	...	10.9
Rate for England and Wales	...	...	11.6
Deaths from puerperal causes	...	...	Nil

Deaths of infants under one year of age:-

Male.

Female.

Legitimate

...

-

2

Illegitimate

...

-

-

Death rate of infants under one year of age per 1,000 live births

24.7

Death rate of legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births

25.6

Death rate of illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births

-

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

Information regarding such services was fully set out in 1938 Report. There are no changes to record.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

<u>Disease.</u>	<u>Total Cases Notified.</u>	<u>Cases admitted to Hospital.</u>	<u>Total Deaths.</u>
Scarlet Fever	5	4	-
Diphtheria	1	1	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-
Pneumonia	1	-	-
Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	3	2	-
Poliomyelitis (Non-Paralytic)	2	1	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-
Measles	159	2	-
Whooping Cough	6	-	-
Meningococcal Infection	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-
TOTAL.	177	10	-

AGE AT DATE OF NOTIFICATION

	Scar- let Fever	Diph.	Puer. Pyrex.	Pneu- monia	Polio myel- itis. (Para- lytic)	Polio- myel- itis. (non- para- lytic)	Oph. Neo.	Mea- sles	Whpg Cough	Men- in- goc- occ- al. Inf.	Erys- ip- elas.
Under 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11	1	-	-
1 and under 3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	13	2	-	-
3 -do- 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	28	1	-	-
5 -do- 10	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	98	2	-	-
10 -do- 15	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	18	-	-	-
15 -do- 20	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
20 -do- 35	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
35 -do- 45	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
45 -do- 65	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
65 and over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	5	1	-	1	3	2	-	159	6	-	-

FOOD POISONING OUTBREAKS

- NONE NOTIFIED

DIPHTHERIA PROPHYLAXIS.

Urban District Ventnor.

Aged under 5 years. 5 - 15.

The percentage of the
child population it is
considered were immunised at 31.12.50.

40.0

49.3

(This estimate includes so far as can be assessed, children immunised
in the Authority's area by private arrangements and children who have
come into the area after being immunised elsewhere).

NON-NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

From the weekly returns of Headteachers :-

Ringworm	1
Jaundice	1
Total.	2

TUBERCULOSIS.

Age Periods.	Total.	New Cases.				Total.	Deaths.			
		M.	Pulm.	Non-Pulm.			M.	Pulm.	Non-Pulm	
			F.	M.	F.			M.	F.	M.
0 and under 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 -do- 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 -do- 10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 -do- 15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 -do- 20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20 -do- 25	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 -do- 35	6	5	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 -do- 45	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 -do- 55	1	-	1	-	-	2	1	1	-	-
55 -do- 65	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and over.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total.	8	5	3	-	-	2	1	1	-	-

This number includes 5 transfers from the mainland and 1 case in which the death return gave the first information.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

REPORT of the Medical Officer of Health in respect of the year 1950, for the Urban District of Ventnor in the County of the Isle of Wight.

PART I of the Act.

- INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspector).

Premises.	Number on Register.	Inspections.	Number of Written Notices.	Occupiers prosecuted.
i) Factories in which Sections 1,2, 3,4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	15	22	2	-
ii) Factories not included in (i) in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	24	38	2	-
iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises).	-	-	-	-
Total.	39	60	4	-

2. Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars.	Number of cases in which defects were found.				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1.)	2	2	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2.)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3.)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4.)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6.)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7.)					
(a) Insufficient.	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective.	2	2	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes.	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork).	-	-	-	-	-
Total.	4	4	-	-	-

WATER.

The water supply to the area is derived from three sources, viz:-

(a) The Wroxall-Ventnor railway tunnel originating from the downland catchment area.

(b) An adit leading into a well below the pumping station.

(c) A heading into St. Martin's Down for the supply of the Wroxall District.

Supplies are used also from the St. Lawrence Spring by purchase from the Rural District Council.

The quantity of water available during the summer of 1950 was inadequate. A pumping station was built by the Water Engineer at the Shanklin supply at Manor Road, Wroxall, and the water from this was pumped into the Ventnor mains, which made a welcome addition to our supplies.

The purity of these supplies is now beyond reproach but the physical properties fall short of excellence by reason of the high sileceous content. During the year the number of samples examined was:-

Chemical Nil.
Bacteriological 4

HOUSING.

Inspection of dwellinghouses during the year.

1.	(a)	Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under P.H. or Housing Acts).	101
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose.	148
2.	(a)	Number of dwellinghouses (included under sub-head 1 above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidating Regulations 1925 - 1932.	Nil
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose.	Nil
3.		Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.	Nil
4.		Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.	101

Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices.

	Number of defective houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers.	93
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Action under Statutory Powers during the Year.

(a)	<u>Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:</u>		
	(1)	Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs.	Nil
	(2)	Number of dwellinghouses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices	
		(a) by owners	Nil
		(b) by Local Authority in default of owners	Nil
(b)	<u>Proceedings under Public Health Acts.</u>		
	(1)	Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied.	8
	(2)	Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices.	5
		(a) by owners	5
		(b) by Local Authority in default of owner.	Nil
(c)	<u>Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of Housing Act 1936.</u>		
	(1)	Number of Houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made.	Nil
	(2)	Number of Houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders.	Nil
(d)	<u>Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act 1936.</u>		
	(1)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made.	Nil
	(2)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit.	Nil

VISITS AND INSPECTIONS.

Houses, Public Health Act.	101
Slaughterhouses.	187
Butchers Shops.	158
Food Shops.	151
Hotels, Boarding Houses, Cafes.	192
Bakehouses.	53
Cowsheds.	28
Dairies.	38
Fish Shops.	56
Fried Fish Shops.	37
Drains Inspected.	81
Drains Tested.	47
Revisits to Property under Notice.	46
Public Conveniences.	41
Factories and Workshops.	42
Interviews with owners.	60
Complaints.	60
Miscellaneous.	46
Stables and Pigsties.	31
Fumigations.	17

1472

SUMMARY OF SANITARY WORK CARRIED OUT.

Roofs repaired	10
Dampness remedied.	5
Floors repaired.	16
Window sashes repaired.	6
Window sash cords renewed.	5
Doors repaired or renewed.	3
Firegrates, cooking ranges repaired.	5
Copper furnaces repaired.	2
Flushing cisterns repaired.	3
Eaves, gutters and downspouts repaired or renewed.	5
Chimney pots renewed.	4
Drains repaired and cleaned.	11
Water Service pipes renewed.	1
New W.C. pans.	2
New W.C. seats.	3
Soil pipes repaired.	1
Ventilation provided.	1
Ceilings and walls repaired.	8
Ceilings and walls cleansed and redecorated.	19
Yard paving repaired or relaid.	2
Water Storage tanks renewed.	2
Water Storage tanks cleansed.	3
Sink waste pipes renewed.	2
Inspection chambers built.	3
Inspection covers repaired.	2
Verminous premises sprayed.	8
Rat infestations investigated.	19

STATEMENT OF MEAT CONDEMNED 1950.

	<u>Cattle</u> <u>Excluding</u> <u>Cows</u>	<u>Cows.</u>	<u>Calves.</u>	<u>Sheep</u> <u>and</u> <u>Lambs.</u>	<u>Pigs.</u>
Number killed if known.	-	-	-	-	9061
Numbers inspected.	-	-	-	-	9061
All diseases except T.B. - whole carcasses condemned.	-	-	-	-	7
All diseases except T.B. - organs or part carcasses condemned.	-	-	-	-	89
T.B. only - whole carcasses condemned.	-	-	-	-	6
T.B. only - Organs or part carcasses condemned.	-	-	-	-	258

SUMMARY OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS CONDEMNED 1950.

Pigs Carcasses	13
Pigs Heads.	129
Pigs Plucks.	129
Beef.	87 lbs.
Lamb.	10 lbs.

Total weight of meat condemned:- 5506 lbs.

FISH.

Herrings.	17 stone.
Kippers.	4 "
Plaice.	4 "
Haddock.	4 "
Total:	<u>29 stone.</u>

TINNED FOODS.

Fruit, Vegetables, Jam, Fish.	406 tins.
Milk	97 "
Shell Eggs.	1261

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